

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Biological Survey

DIVISION OF INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Waterfowl Season Opens
October 1 in 8 States

Post Office rushes were anticipated in eight northern States this week as hunters prepare for the opening of the waterfowl season on October 1. Every waterfowl hunter over 16 is required to have on his person a Federal "duck stamp", purchased at post offices for \$1 each.

States in the northern zone, where waterfowl hunting is permitted from October 1 to November 14, inclusive, are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana. Montana was included in this zone on September 28 by an order signed by Acting Secretary of the Interior E. K. Burlew and approved by President Roosevelt.

Originally, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes explained, Montana had been placed in the country's intermediate zone with a season from October 22 to December 5 at the request of the State Fish and Game Commission. After the regulations had been announced, however, the State Commission joined sportsmen's organizations and individuals in requesting that the opening date be changed to October 1.

Biological Survey officials, who recommend regulations on the basis of year-round waterfowl investigations, reported to Secretary Ickes their opinion that it is more logical for Montana to be in the northern zone because the State is so far north and because in a large part of the State freezing weather may be expected during October.

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